



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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May 13, 2002

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Lynn Kunzler, Senior Reclamation Specialist *LK*

RE: Site Inspection, Mountain Valley Stone, Inc., Browns Canyon Quarry, M/043/019, Summit County, Utah

Date of Inspection: May 3, 2002  
Time of Inspection: 9:30 a.m.  
Conditions: partly cloudy  
Participants: Tony Branca, Operator; Wayne Hedberg and Lynn Kunzler, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To determine acreage of disturbance and potential operations outside permit area.

### Observations:

Upon arrival at the site, we talked with Tony Branca, indicating that we would be taking photos and conducting a GPS survey of the disturbed area. Tony did not accompany us on the inspection.

We began the inspection by setting up one GPS unit as a base station on what we assumed to be the southwest section corner of Section 20, T1S, R5E. While Mr. Kunzler surveyed the perimeter of the disturbed area with a second GPS unit, Mr. Hedberg took photos of the operation.

During this inspection, several items of concern were observed. Even though the Large Mine Notice of Intention indicated that six inches of topsoil would be salvaged from areas to be disturbed, it was evident that this was not being done. The disturbed area had expanded noticeably since the Division's last inspection of January 13, 2002. The waste dump has expanded to the north, and the operations have apparently moved beyond the permit area boundary (fence line) separating Mountain Valley Stone's operations from Star Stone Quarries, Inc (Peoa Quarry - M/043/012). Portions of the fence that had served as a permit boundary marker has been removed.

Several photos were taken of the site.

### Conclusions:

Analysis of the GPS data has determined that 14.43 acres are currently disturbed (the NOI indicates 17.45 acres of proposed disturbance). Of the current disturbance, nearly one acre is outside the proposed permit area boundary shown on the map provided in the large mine NOI. Approximately 0.35 acres of this unpermitted disturbance is within the permit area for the Peoa Quarry (0.14 acres of this is quarry and 0.21 acres is other mine related disturbances).

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While some topsoil has been salvaged from the site, it was clear that soil materials have not been salvaged from all areas identified in the NOI.

Strictly from field observations, it is now impossible to determine the boundary between this operation and the Peoa Quarry.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the operator be sent a Notice of Non-Compliance, citing active operations and disturbance outside the proposed permit area boundary and failure to salvage topsoil. Mitigation should include re-establishing the permit area boundary between Mountain Valley Stone and Star Stone Quarries, Inc.; amend the large mining NOI to include the unpermitted disturbances; identify and mark with t-posts or other suitable markers the proposed permit area as identified in the large mine NOI. Replace the lost soil resources with borrowed or purchased soil materials.

jb  
cc: Robert Hicken, Mountain Valley Stone  
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